

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 00016 031209Z

12

ACTION SY-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 /019 W

----- 050783

R 031135Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2288

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 0016

DEPT FOR SY AND OC

BEIRUT FOR RSO AND RCO

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, ACOM, SY

SUBJECT: RADIOS FOR PERSONNEL FOR SECURITY REASONS

1. THE GREATER PORTION OF THE EMBASSY STAFF ARE WITHOUT TELEPHONES IN THEIR HOMES AND BECAUSE OF THE ACUTE SHORTAGE OF TELEPHONES IN DAMASCUS (A WAITING LIST OF 70,000 APPLICANTS) AND THE FACT THAT THE LOCAL PTT DOES NOT EXPECT ADDITIONAL NEW EQUIPMENT WITHIN THE NEXT TWO YEARS, THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE THAT THE SITUATION WILL CHANGE IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

2. THIS LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS ADVERSELY AFFECTS NORMAL OPERATIONS SUCH AS CONTACTING STAFF DURING AFTER DUTY HOURS BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT CREATES A SERIOUS PERSONAL SECURITY RISK AT A POST WHERE AN EMERGENCY SITUATION IS A CONSTANT POSSIBILITY.

3. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS IT AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE STAFF, AND THEIR FAMILIES, TO HAVE A MEANS OF ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE EMBASSY IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A RADIO FOR THOSE MEMBERS OF THE STAFF WHO DO NOT NOW HAVE A RADIO OR TELEPHONE, THE EMBASSY URGENTLY REQUIRES 7 (SEVEN) PR-36 PORTABLE RADIOS.

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4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT FORWARD TO DAMASCUS BY

FASTEST MEANS, 7 (SEVEN) PR-36 RADIOS.

MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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